



CPEC

Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State higher education commission to discuss work on student success and college affordability

SACRAMENTO — Dec. 3, 2010 — The California Postsecondary Education Commission holds its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 7 at its office in downtown Sacramento. As the state's advisory board for higher education, CPEC focuses on critical issues dealing with the future of higher education in California.

Update on college affordability issues — 10:45 a.m.

Commission staff are working on a report examining how rising costs affect families from all income brackets. Staff will discuss progress on the report and identify the issues being explored, including the fact that living costs and tuition are going up faster than inflation. The final report in March 2011 will include an analysis of financial aid data from UC and CSU to determine the impact on costs.

Biennial report features 40-year trends in education funding — 11:30 a.m. to noon

Staff will present the biennial *Fiscal Profiles* report, which provides researchers and policymakers with comprehensive data that is used for comparative analysis of higher education finance trends.

No other state agency conducts this kind of historical data collection and analysis in higher education funding. Much of the data in *Fiscal Profiles* goes back to 1965, and the report includes 100 tables on different aspects of expenditures and revenues. *Fiscal Profiles* also has higher education information in other areas, including enrollments, capital outlay funds, state-to-state funding comparisons, and tuition and fee charges.

Panel discussion on higher education strategic planning — 1:30 p.m.

The Commission is hosting a panel discussion on the long-range plans of the California Community Colleges, California State University and the University of California. Academic program planning experts from each system will present their plans on how to accommodate enrollment growth in a time of limited state funding.

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Presenters are: Dan Greenstein, UC Vice Provost for Academic Planning, Programs, and Coordination; Ken O'Donnell, CSU Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Policy; and Erik Skinner, community colleges Executive Vice Chancellor.

Workplan on student success — 3 p.m.

Throughout 2010, CPEC staff completed a project examining trends and 10-year projections of enrollment demand across the state's higher education sectors. California's economy will need an educated population to remain an economic leader. CPEC has now convened an advisory committee to look at how to measure success in higher education.

Staff will present an initial workplan, based in part on recommendations from the advisory committee. The first steps are to outline institutions' plans to address the challenges and barriers to successful outcomes for students, and to begin conducting original data analysis and policy research.

Meeting Information

Meetings of the California Postsecondary Education Commission are open to the general public.

Meetings are streamed live at <http://media.cpec.ca.gov/media>.

During the meeting, comments and questions are taken by email at public_comment@cpec.ca.gov.

One-on-one interviews are available with CPEC executive director Karen Humphrey, research director Adrian Griffin, and staff analysts.

A complete meeting agenda and staff reports are at www.cpec.ca.gov/agendas/agnd1012.asp.

Reports adopted by the Commission are at www.cpec.ca.gov/secondpages/commissionreports.asp.

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The California Postsecondary Education Commission was established in 1974 as the state's higher education coordinating agency. CPEC conducts research and advises the Governor, legislators, and other agencies on higher education issues. CPEC maintains the state's most comprehensive higher education database.